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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-1 & 2
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, SHUM, AR, UY
SUBJ: FURTHER INFORMATION ON APPEARANCE OF 10 BODIES IN URUGUAY

REF: MONTEVIDEO 1823, MONTEVIDEO 1818

1. IN REACTION TO FINDING OF 10 BODIES IN RECENT WEEKS ALONG URUGUAYAN COAST, THE ICJ QUERIED GOU AS TO THE POSSIBLE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THESE BODIES AND ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCE OF FOUR PERSONS FROM LIBERTAD PRISON AND SIX OTHER PERSONS, SEVERAL OF WHOM WERE ALLEGED TO HAVE BEEN ARRESTED AND THEREAFTER MISSING WHILE ATTEMPTING TO ENTER URUGUAY AT COLONIA. THE SAME NUMBER OF PERSONS APPEARING ON THE ICJ TELEGRAM TO THE GOU HAS ALSO APPEARED ON A LIST TRANSMITTED FROM WIRE SERVICES. THE FONMINISTER SHOWED THE ICJ TELEGRAM TO THE AMBASSADOR AND EXPRESSED RESENTMENT AND CONCERN OVER THE IMPLICATION DRAWN BY THE ICJ.

3.3(b)(1)

2. [redacted] THE GOU INVESTIGATED THE LIST OF 10 NAMES ALLEGED BY THE ICJ TO BE MISSING PRISONERS OR TO HAVE DISAPPEARED IN URUGUAY. FOUR OF THE PERSONS,

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MEMBERS OF THE MLN-TUPAMAROS, ARE CURRENTLY SERVING SENTENCES IN LIBERTAD PRISON. THESE WERE THE SAME ALLEGED BY ICJ TO HAVE DISAPPEARED. THEY WERE PRODUCED BEFORE DEFENSE LAWYERS, MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES AND OTHER PERSONS IN A NATIONALLY TELEVISED PROGRAM (MVD 1823). THREE OF THE TEN, MEMBERS OF THE EXTREMIST OPR 33, ARE BEING DETAINED BUT HAVE NOT YET BEEN PROCESSED. [redacted] AUTHORITIES HAVE NO RECORD ON THE REMAINING THREE PERSONS. 3.3(b)(1) B1

3. [redacted] THE GOU HAS BEEN INFORMED PRIVATELY BY ARGENTINE AUTHORITIES THAT EIGHT OF THE TEN BODIES FOUND ALONG THE URUGUAYAN COAST ARE THE RESULT OF ARGENTINE ANTI-TERRORIST OPERATIONS. THE SOURCE SAID THE BODIES WERE JETTISONED OVER THE RIVER FROM ARGENTINE HELICOPTERS AFTER INTERROGATIONS BY ARGENTINE AUTHORITIES. 3.3(b)(1) B1

4. PROVIDING ADDITIONAL DETAIL, [redacted] THE BODIES FOUND ALONG THE URUGUAYAN COAST WERE THOSE OF INTERNATICNAL TERRORISTS CAPTURED AND LIQUIDATED BY THE ARGENTINE NAVY. THERE WERE REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN 20 INTERNATIONAL TERRORISTS IN ALL, AND ALL WERE CAPTURED AND PRESUMABLY LIQUIDATED. WE BELIEVE IT POSSIBLE THAT THE BODIES FOUND HERE, DESCRIBED AS BEING ASIATIC IN THEIR MAJORITY, COME FROM THIS GROUP OF 20. THE SOURCE DID NOT KNOW THE TARGET OR TARGETS OF THIS INTERNATIONAL TERRORIST GROUP, BUT THE ARGENTINE NAVY DID TELL THE SOURCE THAT THE GROUP WAS BROUGHT IN BY ARGENTINE TERRORISTS "FOR A BIG JOB."

5. THE GOU'S PRODUCING OF THE FOUR ALLEGEDLY MISSING PERSONS OBVIOUSLY DESTROYS THIS PART OF ICJ'S ALLEGATIONS AND THUS TENDS TO WEAKEN CREDIBILITY OF THE REMAINDER. [redacted] PROVIDES THE ONLY PLAUSIBLE EXPLANATION WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN SO FAR OF THE 10 BODIES AND, IF TRUE, ABSOLVES THE GOU FROM ANY RESPONSIBILITY. 3.3(b)(1) B1
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